

GENERAL NOTES

Data presented in these tables are derived from the fall 1997 National Science Foundation/National Institutes of Health (NSF/NIH) Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering. Unless otherwise specified, the published data represent estimates of total enrollment in science and engineering (S&E) programs in approximately 11,597 graduate departments at 601 institutions in the United States and outlying areas.

NSF has collected data on graduate enrollment and postdoctoral employment since 1966. Note, however, that these data were collected on a limited or sample basis from 1984 through 1987 (see Technical Notes for further information). Beginning in 1988, all eligible institutions were included in the survey.

In 1992, the citizenship categories requested were modified to conform to those used in other surveys conducted by NSF and the National Center for Education Statistics, among others. Previously, permanent residents (those who held green cards but had not yet been granted U.S. citizenship) were included in the "Foreign" category; after 1992, these individuals were included in the "U.S. citizens" total and reported according to racial/ethnic background.

For these reasons, and because institutions may revise their data for earlier years, only the latest trend data should be used in historical analyses.

Tables showing data on source or mechanism of support refer only to primary (that is, largest) source or mechanism of support.

For further information on the survey, please contact:

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